

nals and as a nation amid manifold sins and wickedness in high places. Prominent among these evils may be mentioned the *Liquor Traffic*. This terrible of all curses has entrenched itself behind political parties and defies all law and order. We have not done all we might have done to exterminate this monster from the land. The saloon controls many of the highest offices in the land, and works havoc everywhere. What suffering, what misery, what wretchedness has it brought to thousands of homes, and yet a christian nation is seemingly indifferent toward this great destroyer of human happiness, peace and souls. And yet God has not visited us with judgment for fostering this evil in our midst. Let us praise him for his tender mercy toward a wayward people. There has been fraud in politics, there has been gambling, the distribution of pernicious literature, and yet in his infinite mercy the good Lord has spared us. Now let us wend our way to the house of God and praise him. We should thank him:

Fourth. For the privilege of thanksgiving. It is not a mere duty; it is a privilege, and the one who gives thanks has the greater blessing. A grateful heart has its own reward. Thanksgiving has a reflex influence. It touches the character. It sweetens the disposition, makes life pleasant and brings peace to the soul. The ungrateful man is a misery to himself and others. Let us thank God for this benefit that accrues to those who have within themselves the heart of praise.

Then lastly shall we praise God for that institution which stands so close to God and so near the heart of man, *the family*. The family is the foundation of our government. On it must rest its stability. Let us thank God for the purity and blessing of the home. The festival of the family is the sweetest and most affectionate holiday of the year. Let us love it. Let fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters, old and young, come together and feast on the happy recollections and associations of the home of years ago. Let there be thanksgiving, merriment, laughter, joy in the Lord. Let the scattered members of the family, separated households, unite today at the old home, and in fashions of by gone days knit again the reveled seams, and feel themselves one again as in childhood's happy hours. Let the day begin with praise and thanksgiving to the God who has guided us along the journey of life, blest us with his tender mercies, drawn us by his love and many a sweet promise of the dear and blessed Christ; above all thank him for the full, free and perfect salvation,—thus let the day begin and let it close with household thanksgiving and prayer for his sweet and gentle leadings during the years to come.

THE HIGHEST BLESSING.

Crowning all other marks of Heaven's favors,—and that which no fluctuations of trade, no temporary adversity, can obscure or cause to depreciate,—we have the gift of a Savior from sin, and the proffers of immortal life. Not only have we that word shown to Jacob—the statutes and judgments which were the distinction of his posterity, challenging their peculiar praise,—but we have that clearer, more spiritual, more beneficent revelation of which prophets inquired and searched diligently, and into which the angels desire to look. This is the essential foundation of our greatness, the main support of our material and civil prosperity. For it chiefly are we called upon to honor our God, as well as for the more powerful and happy illustration of its principles which we have in our historical annals, and in our present political and social conditions, more than has marked the origin and progress of any other people.

The great duty devolving on us for these blessings, evidently is, to preserve incorrupt our institutions and the traditions that have been dominant among us, and, foremost, to uphold, exemplify, and spread over this whole land the Gospel and its agencies. If we owe to Christianity everything we value, we are bound, in filial gratitude no less than for self-preservation, to heed its claims, to maintain its power and rights, and to seek its universal supremacy. As we prize our opportunities for wealth, education, social freedom, and general advancement, we must uphold and extend their source.

True to God and to the institutions of his religion, we shall continue to ride on the high places of power, and be a peculiar treasure unto him above all peoples. Showing that we care practically for his statutes and ordinances above all things else, that our personal desires and possessions are all made subservient to the kingdom of Christ, he will honor us still further in the eyes of the nations. Dealing liberally with him, we shall be blessed in our basket and our store, in our families and our kindred, in our public growth and our government. We shall prove a joy to the whole earth. Our light will not abide in obscurity, but radiate to every quarter of the globe. It will increase and penetrate till every tribe and race shall arise from the slumber of ages. Our independence will be real, safe, and contagious. Our liberty, centering in God, shall abide, unfold, and blossom into the bright, consummate flower of millennial beauty. Then from the Orient, and the isles of the sea, from every kindred and clime, shall the choral song of Peace, Liberty, and Love, caught from us, float back with every wind to its first home,—our own blest America.

Personal Mentions.

Four new students this week.

Brother N. D. Wright reports a few accessions at Holbrook, W. Va.

Brother I. D. Bowman continues his revival work in the city with good success.

Read the report of the meeting at Fair Haven, by J. M. Tembaugh, on page 12.

Brother Summers reports one accession at Salem, one at Maple Grove and five at College Corner.

Brother W. H. Miller of the Theological Department preached at Mansfield, Sabbath morning and evening.

Sister Sarah Keim led the K. C. meeting on Sunday evening. The subject for discussion was, The Golden Rule—how to apply it. It proved to be an interesting session, and withal profitable.

Brethren H. S. Sprinkle, R. K. Binkley, John Kiefer and J. M. Rittgers report a delightful trip by private conveyance to the Indiana Conference at Elkhart, Ind. They relate some very pleasant experiences, and altogether it was a journey long to be remembered.

Through brother Walter Clark we learn that J. M. Fox, of Peru, Indiana, is conducting a very successful meeting at the Bethel church, Mich. Eight confessions and prospects good for a grand harvest. Brother Fox is an earnest Gospel alone preacher and a great power in the pulpit.

Prof. J. Allen Miller gave us very practical thoughts on Sunday morning in his discourse on working for the Master, the spirit in which we should labor, and the incentives to higher and greater efforts; while Prof. Rench at the evening services told us in very plain language his reasons for believing and teaching that the Gospel was not of man.

Two more short-hand students entered this week. I now have a nice class, but there is room for more. If you are contemplating the study of short-hand and type-writing let me hear from you. I will cheerfully answer any and all questions that you may ask. Address,

C. G. Phillips,
Box K. Ashland, Ohio.

One of the shortest yet one of the most suggestive biographies extant in any language is that of Enoch, recorded in the fifth chapter of Genesis. The really significant portion is in these few words: "And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him."